STATEMENT–II

(Rs. in crores)

S No.	Scheme	Budget Estimates (Plan)	Expenditure
1	Special Projects for Eradication of Illiteracy	120.00	98.91
2.*	Mass Programme of Functional Literacy (MPFL)	0.00	0.19
3	Scheme of assistance to voluntary agencies	10.00	6.32
4.	Post Literacy and Continuing Education	66.00	9.34
5.	Strengthening of Administrative Structures	14.00	10.96
6	Rural Functional Literacy Project	6.00	0.28
7.	Directorate of Adult Education	12.00	11.86
8	Shramik Vidyapeeth	4.35	4.15
9.	Technology Demonstration	0.15	—
10.	Cultural Exchange Programme	0.25	0.01
11.	National Institute of Adult Education	0.50	0.20
12.	National Literacy Mission Authority	0.75	0.42
	Total:	234.00	142.64

* RE 1995-96 for MPFL was kept at Rs. 20 lakhs.

Port Land

4724. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give port trusts complete autonomy to utilise the land within their premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for change in the present policy?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

US-Pak Joint Military Training

4725. SHRI DARBARA SINGH:
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a joint practice/training of armed forces of Pakistan and the US is undergoing in the U.S.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this training and experience of armed forces of Pakistan is likely to be used against India;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken-up the matter with the U.S.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the US thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI .I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) While the US and Pakistani armed forces have periodic joint exercises, Government is not aware of any joint practice/training currently in progress in the US.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Ratio of Males & Females

4726. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sex ratio, which was 970 females, per 1000 males in 1901 has declined to 927 females per 1000 males in 1991;

(b) if so, the latest estimated sex. ratio in India;

(c) whether any study has been made to determine the main reasons responsible for the declining sex ratio; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to improve the sex ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Sex-ratio which was 972 in 1901 has declined to 927 in 1991, which is the latest available information.

(c) Studies conducted in 9 States inter-alia reveal the main reasons as strong son preference, low level of female education, socio-economic factors and low age at marriage resulting in increased risk in pregnancy and child birth.

(d) Detection and selective abortion of female foetuses has been made illegal in the country from 1st January, 1996 under the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994. Various Programme of action and advocacy are being implemented by the Government in the country for the development of women and girl child. Attempts are also being made to project positive images of girl child so as